

LIFTING THE VEIL



WALKING
GALLERIES // 6

LESSONS
LEARNED // 10

FROM TABOO
TO TARGET // 17



6



9



16



4

“Take the much criticized garment industry in Bangladesh. The girls who work there, marry later”

15



4



10

LIFTING
EXPERT MEETING
ON CHILD MARRIAGE
THE VEIL 7 OCTOBER 2015

COLOFON

Lifting The Veil is a publication of Save The Children and Oxfam Novib, on behalf of the Alliances of the Child Marriage Fund.

Coördinator en redacteur

Esther Barfoot

Redacteur

Julie de Graaf

Rudolf Kleijn

Fotografie

Neeltje Kleijn

Rebke Klokke

Infographic

Loek Weijs

Cover photo

Plan International



Magazine-on-the-spot.nl



“Millions of girls are married too soon and suffer the hard consequences”

“I am a happily married woman. I chose my own husband, decided when to get married, whether to have children, and how many. This seems normal to me, but unfortunately it is not normal for many girls around

the world. Millions of girls each years are married too soon and suffer the hard consequences, while they should be in school, having fun with peers, thinking about their future plans and chasing their dreams. Child, early and forced marriages entrap young girls in relationships that deprive them of their basic human rights. And so it is crucial we become more effective in battling this huge threat. That is why we have to work together, coordinate and align our efforts, debate and seek complementarity. The Lifting the Veil expert meeting underlines our joined efforts that are so very necessary to protect girls from all over the world.”

Reina Buijs

Deputy Director General for International Cooperation

“It is the right of every child to be protected against child marriage”

“During a recent visit to India for Save the Children, I was introduced to a remarkable group of young women. They meet every week to discuss health, nutrition and family planning issues. When they asked me at what age I got married and I replied: “31”, they sighed in amazement. I realized that if I was born in their world, I could have been a grandmother by now.

For millions of girls around the world marriage under the age of 18 is the grim reality. In countries like India childhood ends far too early for 1 out of every 3 girls. They enter a world of poverty and abuse, while they could be the president, doctor or teacher the next generation so desperately needs. After all, the current generation of children is the next generation of world leaders. Investing in children is investing in the future. Investment in the most deprived children in the hardest to reach areas has to be our ambition for the next decade. And within this goal, ending child marriage has to be a priority. Not only because the world will benefit from it, but because it is the right of every child to be protected against child marriage. Each girl that gets the chance to shape her own future, is worth the fight.”

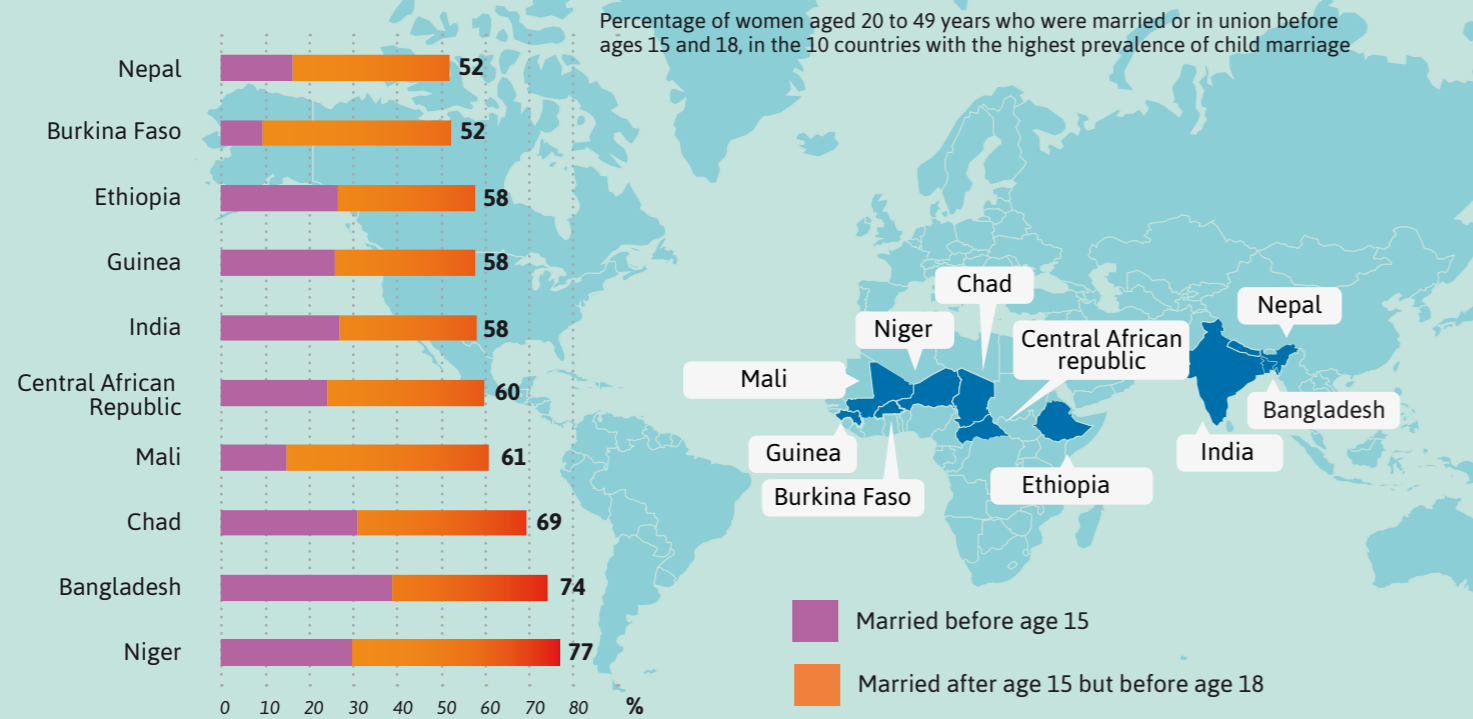
Princess Viktória de Bourbon de Parme
Patroness of Save the Children Netherlands



Alliances of the child marriages fund

Child marriage

The 10 countries with the highest rates of child marriage

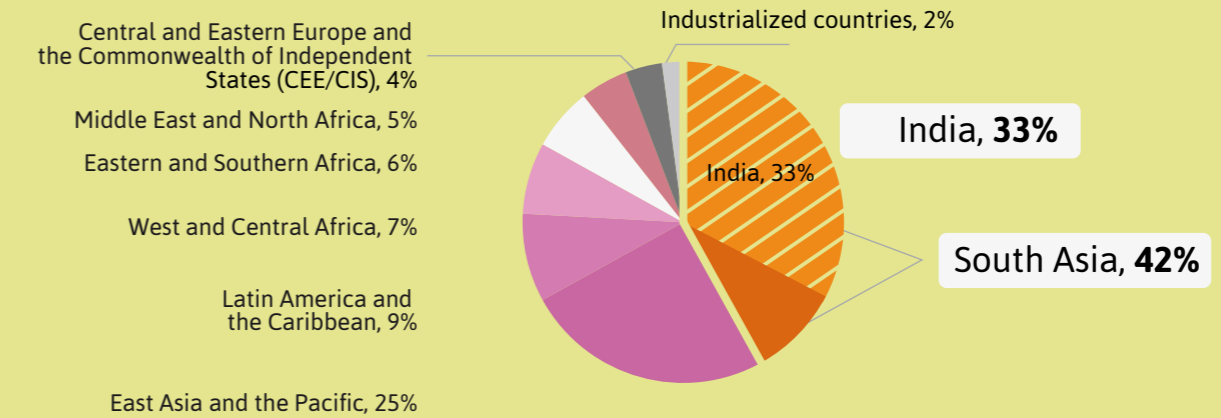


facts & figures

INFOGRAPHIC

Almost half of all child brides worldwide live in South Asia; 1 in 3 are in India

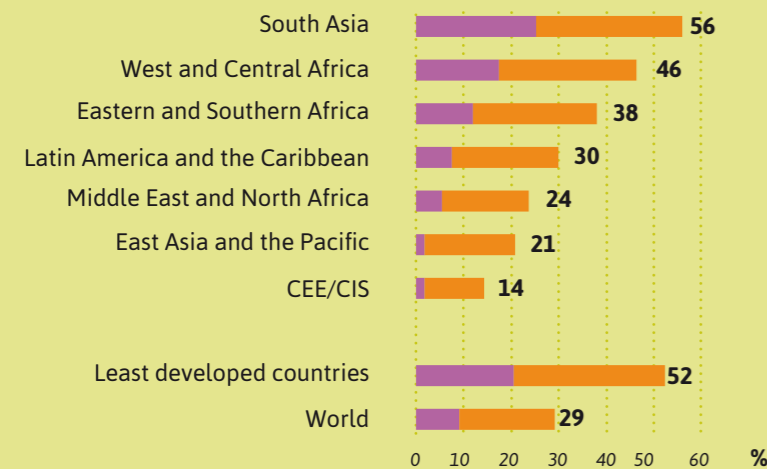
Percentage distribution of women aged 18 years and older who were married or in union before age 18, by region



Note: Estimates are based on a subset of countries covering around 50 per cent of the global population of women aged 18 years and older.

The highest rates of child marriage are found in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa

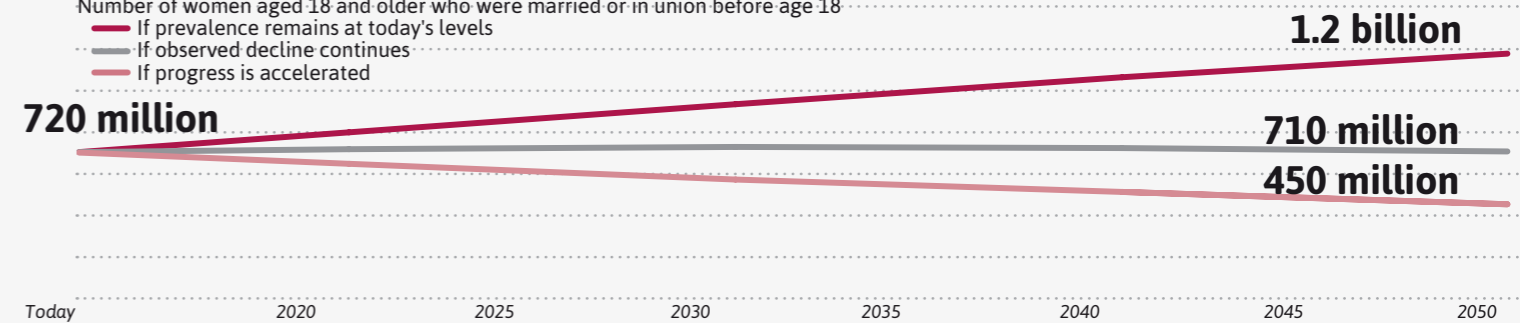
Percentage of women aged 20 to 49 years who were married or in union before ages 15 and 18, by region



Note: Estimates are based on a subset of countries covering around 50 per cent of the global population of women aged 20 to 49 years. Regional estimates represent data covering at least 50 per cent of the regional population. Data coverage is below 50 per cent for East Asia and the Pacific region due to the lack of comparable data on child marriage for China in UNICEF global databases.

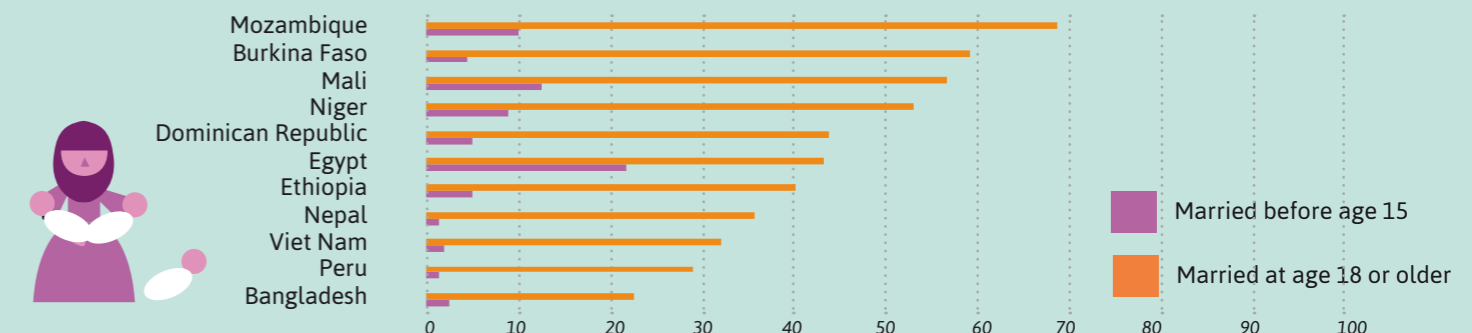
Unless progress is accelerated, the global number of child brides will remain at least as high as it is today

Number of women aged 18 and older who were married or in union before age 18



Child brides end up having many children to care for while still young

Percentage of women aged 20 to 24 years who have had three or more children, by age at first marriage or union, in selected countries



WE CARE & WE SHARE

What interventions have the alliances implemented to combat child marriage? What strategies work? What are the results? Of course, there are numerous stories to be told. In the Walking Galleries the alliances shared a selection of them. In all kind of creative ways, such as improvisation theatre, film and infographics. Here is a taste.



Involving the chiefs

TALES FROM ZAMBIA

Jet Bastiani, gender expert with Plan Netherlands, explains one of the most important elements of the NGO's strategy to work on the prevention of child marriages. "We collaborate with influential people in the community, such as the traditional tribal leaders in Zambia. We really need them on board to speak up against child marriages in their community."

Therefore Plan Netherlands has invited a special guest: tribal chief Kalasa Lukangaba from Zambia. In

this Walking Gallery he recounts his efforts in preventing child marriage in his tribe.

Lukangaba: "I don't allow girls under 18 to get married, because young girls typically face a lot of problems when they get into a young marriage. They are children and we want to protect and educate them."

One of the main reasons for girls in Zambia to get married at young age is when they unexpectedly get pregnant. Lukangaba explains that because of tradition and religion the parents in his tribe will not allow the local school to educate their children about the use of condoms. "Since we can not publicly talk about condoms, we teach our children to abstain. However, if a girl does get pregnant we do not condemn or punish her. Instead we bring the parents of the girl and boy



"In my tribe I do not allow girls under 18 to get married"

together and talk about the situation. I encourage the parents of the pregnant girl to keep sending her to school, instead of marrying her off. They themselves can take care of her baby while she finishes her education."

NO SILVER BULLET



In tackling child marriage there is no silver bullet. But... there might be many! Three field workers of Save the Children and Oxfam Novib share their story in this Walking Gallery.

Saiqa Siraj, Bangladesh

"We selected 24 girls for basic computer training to set up small computer businesses and they in turn trained other girls. In the end 240 girls were trained. We started this initiative because we wanted to prove a point. The fathers of these girls were always saying that they did not know what their daughters were good for. The girls proved to be very good in working with computers and now their families understand their value."



Jean-Christophe Gerard, Niger

"We usually approach children through existing structures, such as schools and through school boards and relatives. In one case a man in one of the villages heard about five girls getting married and disagreed. He informed us and we called on local, communal, and departmental leaders to jointly travel through the villages and talk to the parents, girls and community members about the risks of early marriage. In the end the fathers of the girls decided not to marry off their daughters."



Rose Dolo, Mali

Girls want to become president or a senator. But how can they, if they don't have any role models? That is why we organize photo exhibitions of role models for girls, depicting strong women who tell their story. Among them is our first lady and a female army colonel."



Hunger and child marriages are interconnected, as shown in this infographic and [video](#) from The Hunger Project.

- ❶ Imagine you are a **girl in Bangladesh**. You are seen as an unfortunate circumstance, because you are a daughter, not a son.
- ❷ You are **breastfed less**, than your brothers were.
- ❸ You **eat last** and least after your brothers.
- ❹ You will not go to school and instead help your mother with **household chores**.
- ❺ You are **married** at a young age.
- ❻ You get **pregnant** before your body has had a chance to fully develop. Result: you and your baby don't get the nutrients you need.



Because your baby is malnourished, its body and brain don't develop normally. Which often is irreversible. And if you give birth to a daughter, not a son, the cycle continues. Generation after generation.

Live theatre

One of the strategies used in Malawi to oppose child marriage is interactive theatre. Actors Gertrude Mulangawi and Alick Gaysi travel from community to community to perform their improvised plays. For the expert meeting *Lifting the Veil* they travelled all the way to the Netherlands and performed at the Walking Gallery hosted by Simavi. Also, in the next fortnight they will play at several Dutch schools. Here is a fragment from one of their plays: a discussion between a father, his daughter and his wife:



'My daughter?'
'Yes Dad.'
'I like you so...'
'I have to go to school, daddy.
Where are my books, I want to go to school!'
'You're not going. You know what I told you yesterday. It's for the family, you know this guy is rich.'
'But I want to go to school, get education.'
'I'm your father, I can kill you, I

will beat you! 'Who needs school! You're gonna marry, that's a good thing.'
Daughter walks out.
'Where's my daught, I love you my darling.'
Mother: 'What did you do to Assiad? You beat her?'
'She drives me mad! Fifteen years is old enough to marry.'

Mother: 'But she's too young, she has to go to school. You are a fool, she has to get an education. We must encourage our daughter to go to school, not to get married. Then she can get a good job and help us. When you go to hospital, you can see the girls who were too young to marriage.'

Father: 'Oooh, I agree with you.'

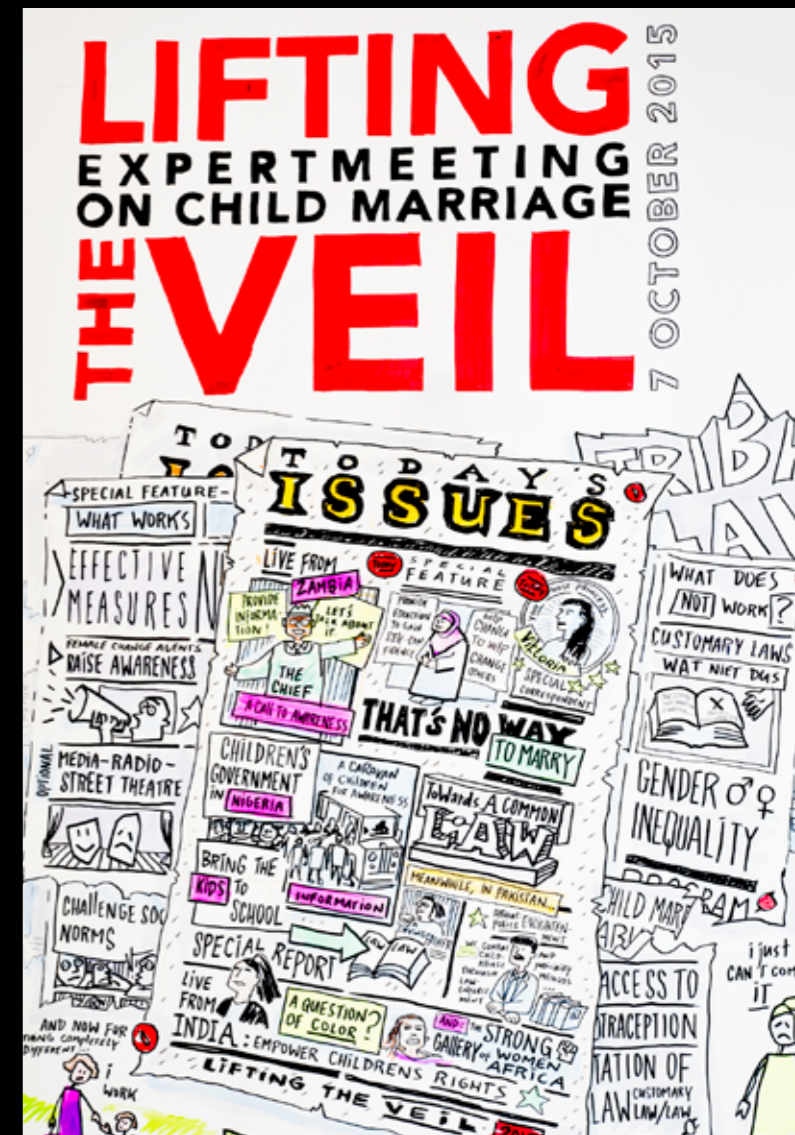
'I'm your father, I can kill you, I will beat you! 'Who needs school! You're gonna marry, that's a good thing.'



'But I want to go to school, get an education.'

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY!

A snapshot look at the day through our lens.



Lessons Learned



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SUBGROUP DISCUSSIONS

Empowerment of Unmarried and Married Girls

1. Holistic, **interdisciplinary approaches** are needed: education, economic alternatives, life skills, communication skills, peer to peer contact, reaching out to parents and community leaders, and changing policies and laws.
2. **Alliances** between NGO's, communities and local partners can be really powerful. Let's form a **broad coalition** against child marriage. Let's learn more from each other. **Share best practices.**
3. More **systematic evaluation** is needed rather than relying on anecdotal evidence.
4. Let's think about **new ways of funding**. As programs grow and become more embedded, try to find more local funds. For example, set up a **local lottery.**
5. Whenever there is a disaster, girls suffer. Families get worried. They send their girl away, marry her off, to keep her 'safe'. In **crisis situations** we must pay **extra attention to girls.**
6. We need to **create platforms** for adolescent girls and boys, raise awareness and empower them to demand their rights.

Advocacy

1. **Plural legal frame-works** and privatization of the crime are problematic.
2. Focus on **child marriage as a medical issue** rather than on the definition of puberty.
3. Analyze contradictory laws and **establish priority legislative changes.**

Promote Social Norms Change

1. **Work at all levels** with various stakeholders (parents, households, communities and government) simultaneously.
2. **Use media** to pressure the government and to raise awareness.
3. **UNICEF basis systematic review** on two indicators: whether actual age

of marriage changes and whether attitudes of different stakeholders change. More evaluation studies showed behavioral change rather than social norms change. Therefore it is important to **focus on behavioral change** we can create. What still needs to be measured is whether behavioral change is lasting.

4. In order for governments to adopt successful models, they have to be implemented at **a decent scale**.

5. Social norms changes needed to tackle child marriage are **long term**.

6. **Sustainability and scalability** should be taken into account from the beginning of program interventions.

7. There is a wide variety of methods and tools and we should **share** work more and be open to change to enhance and create better quality methodologies and tools.



.....
Access to Services

1. Services are often not available and where they are, **many barriers exist**. Some in quality (e.g., education, health), but many barriers are in attitudes of service providers or parents and the community.

2. **Balance between supply and demand** of services is important. We need to focus on both.

3. NGO's need to **think outside their own boxes**. Unpack and untangle what we mean by holistic approaches and what combination of strategies will work, and is sustainable and scalable.

4. We need to do **more research on cash transfers**, and build better evidence across all sectors. We also need to better understand low effectiveness of peer-to-peer education and training of trainers.

5. We need **accountability, monitoring and support systems** so trainings are not lost.

6. **Making SRH services youth-friendly**. Besides working with beneficiaries (in-school and out-of-school adolescents) and healthcare providers, parents also need to be aware of the importance of SRHR information and services for adolescents.

7. SRH information can also be provided through **E-learning, radio programs and help lines**.

8. Ensure access to and quality of education as getting to school is one issue, **keeping girls in school** is another. Girls drop out due to menstruation and lack of **washroom facilities**. Access and quality requires involvement of teachers, school management, parents and communities.

9. We know the barriers to accessing SRH services: **girls are treated poorly in clinics** because they are poor, young, and sexually active. Training of trainers has achieved mixed, sometimes low results. Voucher

systems promote girls' entitlement to SRH services and are scalable. However systems are not equipped to handle such in all contexts. Many NGO's are more comfortable to address the demand side but should get out of their comfort zone to **address the supply side**. NGO's should put pressure on the supply side.

10. We should not only train government health officers to provide quality SRH services, but also **train villagers**. When they give messages, people listen, and it increases ownership.

11. In remote rural areas one of main problems is the absence of schools or schools that are too far away to consider; due to unsafe travel for girls. We need to **create community-based schools**, and influence Ministries of Education to provide schools where people are living.

12. **Child protection systems** need to be linked to schools and create social responsibility among parents, teachers, school management, and village chiefs.

13. Include **job readiness and economic training**.

14. Creating saving and loan schemes, and provide technical training for income generating activities to **raise economic power**.

15. **Cash transfers** create demand, drives people to the private sector, and increases availability of public provisions as well.



'Let's shift perceptions through actions'

After sharing results in the Walking Galleries and the subgroup discussions, it is time for Giovanna Lauro (Promundo), Satvika Chalasani (UNFPA), Sajeda Amin (Population Council), Suzanne Petroni (ICRW) and Anju Malhotra (UNICEF) to climb the stage for the panel discussion.



Suzanne Petroni kicks off by presenting the five strategies that have proven to work in combatting child marriage: "The first is empowering girls to help them think and act for themselves. The second: educating parents and communities as they perpetuate child marriage. The third: educating girls. There is a high correlation between educating girls and later age at marriage. However the direction of the causality is unknown. The fourth is providing economic incentives for girls or their families. And the fifth, legislative change: implementing laws and ensuring customary laws don't overrule human rights law."

At the same time it is important to work with fathers and boys as marriage is a transaction between both sexes, says Giovanna Lauro. "Girls marry at an early age, because there is no alternative.

They have no access to jobs. For boys it is the same; without job perspective, it is difficult for them to marry a girl their own age. Fighting child marriage is about having choices."

POSITIVE ALTERNATIVES

There should be a change of perspective, Sajeda Amin adds. "Positive opportunities for girls haven't had very much attention in the battle against child marriage. We have to make visible to community leaders and politicians what those positive alternatives are. Girls need to be seen as assets, not as liabilities. Demonstrating such is an important instrument, as is a positive deviant approach."

Satvika Chalasani agrees: "We have to shift perceptions through action. If a critical mass of children is going to school, it will become the norm.

Through demonstration of support to girls we can create a critical mass to shift norms." This resounds with a remark Anju Malhotra made earlier in the discussion: "Changing norms will follow changing behavior. Very often underlying circumstances do not permit parents not to marry off their daughters even if parents know the harm of child marriage. Girls deserve better: they deserve functional schools with trained teachers and toilets that work. Services are needed for behavioral and social norms change." Suzanne Petroni (ICRW) pleads for educating girls. "As long as girls are in school they are regarded as children and they are safer."

THE POWER OF JOBS

Never underestimate the power of jobs, Sajeda Amin boldly states: "Take the much criticized garment industry in Bangladesh. The girls

'Take the much criticized garment industry in Bangladesh. The girls who work there, marry later'

who work there, marry later. One research study showed that merely providing information on work opportunities changed the practice of child marriage."

Then Anju Malhotra places the battle against child marriage in a structural perspective. "Broader structural changes take place mostly outside the NGO world, such as economic growth and large investments. We have to make child marriage part of the global and national agendas. And we have to start specializing in bringing interventions that work to scale. But we have to share tasks. Comprehensive programming is impossible; we can't do everything."

MINISTRY OF HOLISTICS

Either test what works and then scale up or intervene on a large scale from the start, Satvika Chalasani says. "In order to scale up, you need a very good evidence based theory or you need evidence what has worked and plug into existing structures. There is no such thing as a holistic program to plug into a Ministry of Holistics. One needs to find a happy middle ground between vertical and integrated programming."

On a positive note, Anju Malhotra (UNICEF) and Sajeda Amin are convinced that in the end there could be an unstoppable development. Malhotra: "Changing the educational system, so that it

really delivers, will ultimately work. When there is enough critical mass, say 50 percent, the development won't stop." Sajeda Amin goes along with that: "The government is needed for scale. When you ride a wave, continue. For instance, it's expected that Bangladesh will go digital in 2016. This means a lot of new jobs. A new niche for girls to enter."

In the end not only girls will profit from this development, says Giovanna Lauro: "It's healthier for boys and men too, everybody will have a better life. Working with men and boys is both a means to reach outcomes for girls, as well as an end for more equitable relationships."

MORE FROM OUR PANEL EXPERTS

We tackled the panel experts in the hall way and the conference room to ask them some additional questions. What drives them personally? What surprises them? What was their most memorable encounter in the field?



Giovanna Lauro
Promundo Global

What is your personal drive for wanting to contribute to the prevention of child marriage?

Giovanna: "It is the universality of the practice that has driven my interest in researching this topic. We often think about child marriage as something that happens in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, yet it is far from eradicated in Europe and the Americas. In Europe, countries with the highest rates of early marriage include Georgia, Turkey and Ukraine. In Britain and France, it is estimated that at least ten percent of adolescents marry before the age of 18. As for Latin America, Brazil, a country generally not associated with child marriage, has the third highest number of married girls (18 and under) in the world. According to a 2010 census, almost 90,000 children."

Suzanne: "I've worked in the Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights field for twenty years and especially focused on adolescents. At some point I realised many of the challenges adolescent girls face in regard to their sexual and reproductive health are actually greater in marriage. In many settings the parents think marriage is a way to protect girls from sexual

violence, to protect their virginity or to protect them from sexual behaviour and early pregnancy. But forced marriage is *not* protective. It actually allows for more violence and unwanted sex. I see addressing the issue of child marriage as a way to advance girls' overall sexual rights and health."

'In Britain and France, it is estimated that at least ten percent of adolescents marry before the age of 18'

What do you think is currently the most interesting insight into ways of tackling child marriage?

Giovanna: "We need to research and work on the demand side of marriage - men's and boys' perceptions of marriage. It's not enough to change what men and boys think is the right age to marry. We need to change the values they attribute to being a boy or girl. What are the qualities of a good man? Being the breadwinner is one of

the first things boys or young men say. We try to instill more focus on caregiving, on empathy and nurturing. And we need to start working with boys when they are still at school and see girls every day; as peers. But we also have to work with their parents or caregivers to reinforce the message. That is also a matter of safety. If we change the points of view of the boys, but the parents think very differently, it puts the boys in danger."

Sajeda: "Normally we do not think of something such as job opportunity to have an immediate effect on child marriage. But in India we have found that just by providing information about jobs for women, we can have a mayor effect on young girls of 12 to 15 years of age. This kind of information has a much greater effect than talking to them on, say, gender rights or sexual reproductive health. Health for many girls is not their worry. Poverty is."

Suzanne: "One thing that we would love to research further at ICRW, is what impact reaching out to married girls can have on child marriage prevention. In Ethiopia's rural Amhara region CARE-Ethiopia worked with 5,000



Satvika Chalasani
UNFPA

girls aged between 10 and 19 who were already married, widowed or divorced. The program provided opportunities for these girls to meet other girls, learn about sexual and reproductive health, as well as how to earn an income and save money. And what we found, is that not only did they themselves benefit. They also brought this back to their households. The husbands recognized the value of girls being educated, and talked about it within the communities. And because of all of this a number of planned weddings among adolescent girls were postponed. So, meeting the needs of already married girls, helps them serve as role models for unmarried girls or girls about to marry."

What is the most promising program tackling child marriage you know?

Satvika: "In Niger, the country with the highest number of child marriages in the world and by far the poorest, UNFPA is working on a girl centered program and has reached more than 10,000 girls. This program is working alongside a national strategy on teenage pregnancy. They go hand in hand. I find it promising because it



Suzanne Petroni
International Center for Research on Women

demonstrates a significant increase in sense of agency and 59 girls have said no to their planned wedding. I'm a little biased, of course, because it's our own program. But I find it important to mention it, because I feel West-Africa is not talked about enough. It's a neglected area for girls programming. In part, for a simple reason: that it's francophone."

What was your most unforgettable experience, while in the field?

Suzanne: "I immediately have to think of Malala, at the Girl Summit in London last year. Malala sat on stage. At 17 years old, she is so profound. She talked about social norms and culture. Culture is not godgiven, she said, but manmade and can therefore be changed. She sat next to Sheikh Hasina, the female prime minister of Bangladesh, who on that day made a promise to end child marriage in a generation in her country. But then she went home and announced they were going to lower the marriageable age from 18 to 16 years. That way she could reduce the number of child marriages. They could forget about the 16 and 17 year olds. It was a



Sajeda Amin
Population Council

duplicitous act. She said one thing but meant another. And watching this dichotomy. This senior politician who gave a speech, but didn't mean it. And the young Malala who could so powerfully make the case. This was the power of a girl to spark change."

Giovanna: "I was particularly struck by the findings of an exploratory research study on child marriage we recently conducted in Brazil. One of the findings from the field that will stay with me for a long time is that girls in some settings may exercise more agency than it is generally acknowledged - albeit within the context of very limited opportunities - when it comes to deciding to enter marriage. A fourteen year old told us how she regretted having married at thirteen, but she asked what other choices did she have. She would have ended up as her sister, who works as a prostitute. This type of agency stands in sharp contrast to stereotypical images of child brides, opening up the possibility that girls may not always be only passive victims. It is important to further explore the nuances of girls' agency and understanding the reasons leading them to choose marriage over other options."

A STRONG MESSAGE

“No one wants their daughter to be married off at the age of 11 or 12. I think we have a responsibility to help parents in all parts of the world to create a different future for their children.”

Lilianne Ploumen Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.

I have been a women's rights activist for all of my life, but 30 years ago child marriages were not on our agenda. There were just so many other issues. So it is such a strong message that all of us are here together today and advocate for girls who cannot speak up for themselves... yet. But they will!

I would be happy if the number of girls who are married off at a young age or against their will decreases. We all know that this will take a long time, because in many countries it is not very simple. There are laws against child marriage for example and a legal framework, but often they are not implemented. Also, in many communities mothers feel that they honour their daughters by marrying them off at an early age. Or, what you see happening now with refugees from Syria, parents marry off their children because it is the only way they can think of to protect them. So there are many reasons why people do this, and that means we have to work on many different fronts to stop it.

With everyone being present here today, we are generating a lot of attention for the topic. And that is good, we need to have resolutions at the UN and we need organizations to work on this. But to be honest, if a progressive imam from Mali says to his community: “Do not marry off your daughters, it is not good for your children. Let us sit together and try to think of other ways to help you and to educate your girls.”, that will be much more effective. So I hope we also reach out to many of those community leaders, because in the end they are the ones who will have the real conversations. I always feel a bit



“I think we have a responsibility to help parents in all parts of the world to create a different future for their children”

uncomfortable when I discuss these issues as though they only occur in some other part of the world. In our own country, girls who came here as refugees turned out to be married to older men. So even in the Netherlands, where we have a really good legal framework, our framework was not up to the challenges of reality. Thankfully, legally it has been fixed by now. That is of course not the end of the story, but it is a prerequisite for change. I will also talk to my colleagues in the EU who host refugee communities about whether they face the same problems and whether they are aware of that. My point is that child marriage is not only about other people, living in other countries. We also need to take care of this issue in our own country.”

a taboo into a target in the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The second thing I take away is that we now need to translate this awareness and commitment into real action on the ground. We know what we need to do to end child marriage: we need to continue to learn from each other's failures and successes. We know that there are no easy or quick solutions. We know that the scale of the problem is far, far bigger than our efforts to tackle it, but we also know that we can make a difference. We need to go from the international to the national and the local, because we all know that is where it is ultimately going to happen; in the lives of the girls and their families.

“The bottom line is: local NGO's really understand what goes on in the communities”

Thirdly, the solutions are going to be not straightforward and even very complex, but everyone has a role to play. And I think civil society is going to play a crucial role. Civil society, and especially local civil society, knows what happens in the communities and has the trust to help to create change. One of the things that struck me today is that we need to be very careful, as more and more international NGO's get involved in this issue, how we handle national and local NGO's. The relationship between those should be one of respect, and not one where the international NGO's come in with a bag of money and tell the local NGO's what they should do. Because the bottom line is: the local NGO's really understand what is going on in the communities and how change is going to happen. They will be there long after the international NGO's and the governments and everybody else is gone.

Lastly, we need to keep girls at the center. It is about them and we should listen to them. As many of you have shared here today: “If we empower them, they are going to be a major catalyst for change.”

FROM TABOO TO TARGET

“I will leave here today inspired and recommitted, yet again, knowing that we can eliminate child marriages. Let me share some key points I will take away from this meeting.”

*Princess Mabel of Orange-Nassau
chairwoman of Girls Not Brides*

First of all: some people and organizations have been engaged with the issue of child marriage for a long time, but at the same time it is fair to say that for most people four or five years ago this issue was a taboo. The 15 million girls who get married every year were completely invisible. So I think it is really exciting and quite amazing that in a fairly short time we have managed to change

Girls
should be
seen as
assets,
not
liabilities.

Save the Children @SaveChildren

Wat werkt wel en niet in de strijd tegen kindhuwelijken? bit.ly/1GqYGcs #expertmeeting

Plan Nederland @PlanNederland

Goed nieuws! Eerste Kamer stemt versneld in met verbod op kindbruiden www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2015/10/06/eerste-kamer-stemt-versneld-in-met-verbod-op-kindbruiden/ ... #kindhuwelijk

#EndChildMarriage

Mabel van Oranje @MabelvanOranje

At age 15, I wanted to be a student - not a child bride. #MyLifeAt15



Annelies Kanis @annelieskanis

Er trouwen vandaag nog 38.000 meisjes voordat ze 18 zijn

The Hunger Project @THPNederland

Gave video van partner @kinderpost over stoppen kindhuwelijken www.brandoutloud.org/videos/17/ @BrandOutLoud



Rutgers @RutgersWPF

Elke 3 seconden wordt er ergens in de wereld n meisje gedwongen te trouwen. Morgen Expertmeeting www.rutgers.nl/minister-ploumen-en-mabel-van-oranje-aan-het-woord-over-kindhuwelijken-tijdens-expertmeeting



Chiaki Takenouchi, Daniella Zlotnik, Madalina Barbura and Amal Nassar
Students International Children's Rights at Leiden University

"The subgroup about law was very useful in showing examples of how to implement our knowledge into real life. We have to pay attention to local legislation and work with community leaders. We approach a global problem and the most important thing is to do it by working together with national organizations and NGO's. All these people from different countries have got one thing in common: the children are the most important."